

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-10 SS-15 NSC-05 IGA-01

CG-00 /113 W

----- 083994

R 051417Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5630

UNCLAS CAIRO 7689

FROM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT EG

SUBJECT: ALEXANDRIA PORT CONGESTION

REF CAIRO 7213

1. SEVERAL HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS, AT LEAST ONE CHAIRED BY PRIMIN SALEM, HAVE BEEN HELD IN ALEXANDRIA IN RECENT DAYS TO STUDY WAYS OF MEETING THREAT OF NEW PORT CONGESTION BUILDUP. AS OF AUG 5 SEVERAL VESSELS ARE AGAIN AT ANCHOR OUTSIDE PORT AND INNER HARBOR IS GETTING CROWDED.

2. AT PRESENT 14 ORGANIZATIONS ARE BEING BROUGHT BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE PARQUET (CIVIL COURT) FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE IMPORTED GOODS FROM PORT AREA WITHIN REQUIRED TIME LIMITS. HOWEVER, VISUAL INSPECTION AUG 5 DOES NOT INDICATE IN-PORT STORAGE YET A SERIOUS PROBLEM AGAIN. BASIC ILL IS LACK OF SUFFICIENT ALONGSIDE BERTHING TO HANDLE GREATLY INCREASED CARGO VOLUME STIMULATED BY RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS, INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION AND LIFTING OF MANY RESTRICTIONS ON PRIVATE IMPORTS.

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3. A GREAT DEAL OF BUILDING MATERIAL IS IN EVIDENCE, MUCH

FERTILIZER, AND NEWLY-ARRIVED PRIVATE CARS AND BUSES AGAIN
CROWD SIDEWALKS AND LAWNS OF PASSENGER TEMINAL. GRAIN
AREA EXCEEDINGLY BUSY WITH 7 VESSELS UNLOADING (INCLUDING 3
OF AMERICAN REGISTRY), 4 AT REGULAR SILOS PIERS AND 3 AT
ADJACENT LUMBER PIERS.

4. DESPITE EFFORTS TO SPACE OUT SHIP ARRIVALS TO AVOID WAITING,
AD HOC COMMITTEE MONITORING PORT ACTIVITY ALREADY FORECASTS
FOOD CARGOES THIS MONTHS AND FERTILIZER IMPORTS NEXT MONTH
THAT WILL EXCEED PORT'S CAPACITY TO HANDLE EXPEDITIOUSLY.
SIGNED CHASE.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT CONGESTION, PORT FACILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO07689
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750270-0099
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750879/aaaacrkm.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAIRO 7213
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALEXANDRIA PORT CONGESTION
TAGS: EWWT, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006